

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 + further comprising at least one power source housed in said holder mechanism to provide operational power to at least one of said camera unit, image processor module, ~~system~~ light sources and image display device.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 + said holder mechanism further comprising at least one handle portion connected to said support portion.
6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 5 wherein said handle portion is integrally connected to said support portion.
7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 5 wherein said handle portion is pivotally connected to said support portion.
8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 + wherein said light source portion is rotatably connected to said support portion.
9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 + wherein said camera unit is a charge-coupled device (CCD) camera unit.
10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 + wherein said display device is a liquid crystal display (LCD) device.
11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 + wherein said control mechanism is disposed on said support portion.
12. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 5 wherein said control mechanism is disposed on said handle portion.
13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 + said control mechanism further comprising at least one mode selection device for browsing and selecting at least one operation of said image processor module.
14. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein said mode selection device is a manual input button.

15. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein said mode selection device is a finger operated adjusting rolling switch.

16. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein said mode selection device is a finger operated adjusting sliding switch.

17. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein said mode selection device is a graphic user interface device.

18. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein said mode selection device is a graphic user interface device displayed on a portion of said display region.

19. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein said mode selection device is a voice input device.

20. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein said power source is housed in a handle portion of said holder mechanism wherein said handle portion is connected to said support portion.

21. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein said power source is at least one of a battery unit and an externally connected power source.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~33~~ 22 wherein said predetermined instruction is a user-inputted instruction received from said control mechanism.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~33~~ 22 wherein said predetermined instruction is said captured image.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~33~~ 22 wherein said predetermined instruction is said formatted image.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~33~~ 22 wherein said image processing module is a programmable image processing module.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~33~~ 22 further comprising:
at least one optical alpha-numeric character recognition module to recognize at least one of a word and a number in said image; and

at least one voice synthesizer module to output said patterns corresponding to a pronunciation of said recognized word and number.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 ~~30~~ wherein said noise elimination includes filtering of undesired features of said object.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 ~~30~~ wherein said inverse video displaying includes display text wherein the colors of text and background are switched.

33. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for facilitating viewing of an object by human eye, comprising:

a holder mechanism comprising a support portion having opposing first and second support surfaces;

at least one light source disposed on said holder mechanism first surface to illuminate at least a portion of the object;

at least one electronic camera unit disposed on said holder mechanism first surface, said camera being operative to capture at least one image of the object;

at least one image processor module in electrical communication with said camera unit to format said captured image for display;

at least one image display device having a display region, said display device disposed on said holder mechanism second surface and in electrical communication with said image processor module to display said formatted image on said display region; and

at least one user-interface control mechanism disposed on said holder mechanism and in electrical communication with said image processor module for controlling the operations of said module to regulate display of the formatted image by the display device;

wherein the image processor module comprises at least one processor system in electrical communication with, to receive operational data from, and to control the operations of, at least one of said control mechanism, said camera unit, said light sources and said display device based on a predetermined instruction to adjust at least one of a magnification level, an illumination intensity, an image enhancement and a focusing resolution level of said displayed image;

wherein said image enhancement includes at least one of an adjustment to contrast and brightness, a noise elimination, a color re-mapping, an inverse video displaying, an illumination equalization mode, image shifting, image stabilization, and image freezing; and

wherein said illumination equalization mode includes modification of illumination brightness over a selected display area to compensate for a non-ideal positioning of said light source.

34. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 33 + wherein said apparatus is a portable apparatus.

35-38 (Cancelled)